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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 479

Offered January 18, 1995

Commending the Wallops Flight Facility on the occasion of its 50th anniversary.

Patrons—Bloxom; Senator: Norment

WHEREAS, the Wallops Flight Facility, located on Wallops Island on Virginia's Eastern Shore, is part of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Goddard Space Flight Center; and

WHEREAS, the Wallops Flight Facility began in 1945 as the Pilotless Aircraft Research Station under the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics as a part of the Langley Aeronautical Laboratory in Hampton; and

WHEREAS, rocket-borne experiments have been conducted by the Wallops Flight Facility for 50 years, making Wallops the oldest continuous launch range in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Wallops Flight Facility has launched rocket-propelled research vehicles and scientific balloons and conducted thousands of aeronautical and aircraft tests to gain research information on flight characteristics of spacecraft and to increase knowledge of upper atmosphere and space environments;

WHEREAS, this research at Wallops has led to significant contributions to the nation's space and aviation programs; and

WHEREAS, throughout its half-century of existence, the Wallops Flight Facility has been a major contributor to the nation's economic, educational, and scientific development; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend and congratulate the Wallops Flight Facility on the occasion of its golden anniversary; and, be

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Wallops Flight Facility in honor of its 50 years of service to the nation.